Mountain Weather Forecast

Lake District National Park

Forecast valid from 06:00 on Saturday 21 Dec 2024 until 23:59 on Sunday 22 Dec 2024

Forecast Issued on Saturday 21 Dec 2024 at 03:03

Confidence: High for general developments. Medium for cloud details.

Headline for Saturday 21 Dec 2024: Rain then heavy snow showers. Very windy with severe wind chill.

Mountain weather hazards on Saturday 21 Dec 2024

Blizzards Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent snow** No Likelihood	**Storm force winds** Medium Likelihood
Gales High Likelihood	**Severe chill effect** High Likelihood	**Poor visibility** High Likelihood
Thunderstorms Low Likelihood	**Heavy persistent rain** No Likelihood	**Strong sunlight** No Likelihood

Weather and chance of precipitation at 800m					
Time					
06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00
Heavy Rain	Heavy Rain	Sunny intervals	Heavy snow showers	Heavy snow showers (night)	Heavy snow showers (night)
Precipitation probability					
90%	80%	30%	60%	60%	60%

Forecast for Saturday 21 Dec 2024

Weather: Lowering cloud and outbreaks of rain and drizzle early morning. Cloud beginning to lift and break from mid-morning, bright spells and heavy blustery showers during the afternoon, these turning to snow above 600m by dusk. Further heavy snow showers in the evening.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 20% early morning, rising to 70% during the day, but lowering significantly as the showers pass through.

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive cloud, base 300 to 600m early morning, the cloud then lifting and breaking near or above the summits by midday. However, falling significantly, base 500m or less as the heavy, blustery showers push through. Mostly moderate to very poor visibility overnight and early morning. Becoming mostly very good or excellent as the cloud lifts and breaks, but temporary blizzard and whiteout conditions as the heavy snow showers push through.

Check our weather forecast every day to get the most accurate and up to date information
https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/specialist-forecasts/mountain
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Mountain Weather Forecast

Forecast for Saturday 21 Dec 2024

Height (m)	Wind Speed mean/gusts (mph) Wind Direction (blowing from)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	50/60 SW	52/62 W	47/59 W	47/60 W	48/61 W	47/60 W	48/61 W
600	41/52 SW	42/54 W	38/52 W	38/52 W	38/53 W	38/53 W	38/53 W
300	12/38 SW	14/42 W	16/41 W	15/41 W	16/43 W	16/43 W	18/45 W
Valley	11/35 SW	12/37 W	17/39 W	16/39 W	17/41 W	18/43 W	20/45 W

Height (m)	Temperature / Feels Like (°C)						
	06:00	09:00	12:00	15:00	18:00	21:00	00:00
900	3/-5	4/-5	1/-8	-0/-10	-1/-11	-2/-12	-3/-14
600	5/-2	6/-1	4/-4	2/-6	1/-7	0/-8	-1/-10
300	6/3	8/4	6/2	5/0	4/-1	3/-2	2/-4
Valley	8/5	9/7	8/5	7/3	6/2	6/1	4/-1
Freezing Level*	1700m	1200m	1000m	900m	700m	600m	500m

**Level above which ground is expected to be frozen/snow is expected to settle.*

Meteorologist's View

Note the wind speeds and wind chill at height. Gusts of around 70mph expected over the summits by evening with buffeting and the risk of being blown over.

Forecast for Sunday 22 Dec 2024

Weather: Heavy snow showers overnight and during the morning with some drifting and whiteout conditions. The snow showers becoming well scattered through the afternoon and evening with sunny or clear spells developing.

Maximum wind: West or Northwest 40mph gusting 60mph with severe wind chill.

Chance of cloud-free hill tops above 800m: 50% becoming 90% by dusk

Low cloud and visibility: Extensive cloud around the summits overnight and during the morning, bases falling 400m or less in heavy snow showers. Cloud becoming well scattered or clear at times during the afternoon and evening. Visibility very poor in snow with white out conditions, but becoming mostly very good or excellent by the afternoon.

Temperature: **Valleys:** Zero rising to Plus 6 Celsius
At 800m: Minus 1 to Minus 3 Celsius
Freezing level: All levels rising to around 600m around the middle of the day.

Monday	Clear and cold at first. Rain and snow developing, rain at all levels by evening with a thaw setting in. Moderate to fresh northwest, becoming southwest winds at height. Freezing most levels at first, rising above the summits by evening.
Tuesday	Cloudy with occasional rain and drizzle. Fresh to strong southwesterly winds at height. Mild.
Wednesday	Mostly cloudy. Patchy rain and drizzle. Fresh to strong southwesterly winds at height. Mild.

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Mountain Weather Forecast

Ground Conditions Supplement

Date: Friday 20 December. Location: Helvellyn summit at 12:00. Temperature: plus 2degC. Maximum wind speed 40.1mph. Wind chill: minus 3.9degC. Average wind speed: 25.2mph.
Full report:
Summits got another rinsing today as persistent rain and sleet spread through the park. The forecast was true, despite todays wind strength readings taken on Helvellyn summit being less than predicted, with cols and ridge low-points accelerating the wind speed into the 50's (mph) - meaning difficult walking. Tomorrows wind strength will be higher into gale and storm forces. Walking on the high fells will be treacherous.
Very little snow remains with saturated footpaths easily turning to ice as temperatures likely fall.
And if that wasn't enough, low cloud pivoting around 500m will provide challenging visibility with the need for accurate navigation.
Please make every effort to keep safe if venturing out with full winter clothing and additional mountain safety kit (First aid kit, bivvi bag, bothy shelter, emergency clothing, head torch, map and compass and emergency food)
This is an automated email. If you need a response please email felltop.assessors@lakedistrict.gov.uk

Issued at: 03:03 on Sat 21 Dec 2024

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